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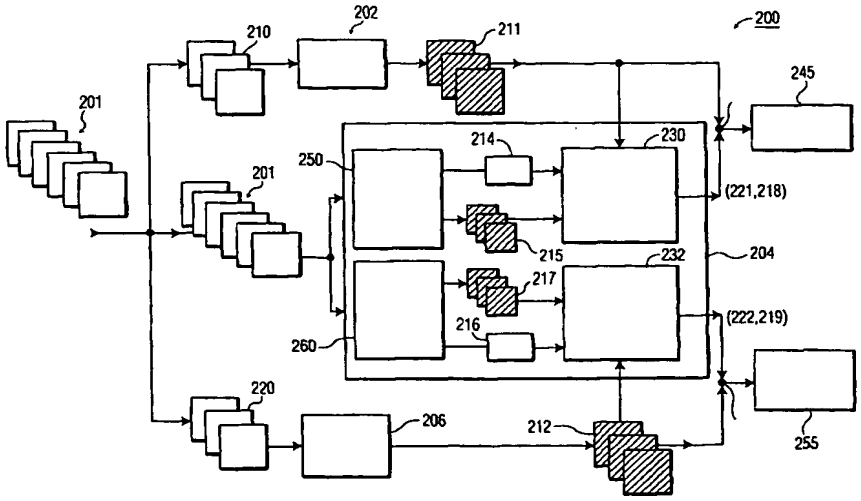
(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING MULTIPLE DESCRIPTION MOTION COMPENSATION USING HYBRID PREDICTIVE CODES



(57) Abstract: An improved multiple description coding (MDC) method and apparatus is provided which extends multi-description motion compensation (MDMC) by allowing for multi-frame prediction and is not limited to only I and P frames. Further, the coding method of the invention extends MDMC for use with any conventional predictive codec, such as, for example, MPEG2/4 and H.26L. The improved MDC permits the use of any conventional predictive coder for use as a top and bottom predictive encoder. Further, the top and bottom predictive coders can advantageously include B-frames and multiple prediction motion compensation. Still further, any of the top, middle and bottom predictive encoders can be a scalable encoder (e.g., FGS-like or data-partitioning like where the motion vectors (MVs) are sent first, temporal scalability etc.).

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